

IN THE CLAIMS:

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS:

1. (original): A therapeutic suspension for the treatment of human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1) infection in humans comprising isolated and purified HIV-1 *nef*-deficient viral particles prepared from cells transfected with a recombinant HIV-1 molecular clone having a *nef* deletion between the endonuclease cleavage sites Nco I and Xho I, wherein said viral particles are suspended in a pharmaceutically acceptable medium and said suspension functions to increase or restore CD4+ lymphocyte levels in HIV-1 infected subjects.

2. (currently amended):

The suspension of claim 1 in said suspension further reduces the HIV-1 viral ~~burdens~~ burden in HIV-1 infected subjects.

3. cancelled

4. (withdrawn):

A method for reducing the HIV-1 viral burden in HIV-1 infected subjects comprising the following steps:

a. preparing a therapeutic suspension comprising isolated and purified HIV-1 *nef*-deficient viral particles prepared from cells transfected with recombinant HIV-1 molecular clone having a *nef*-deletion between the endonuclease cleavage sites Nco I and Xho I, wherein said particles are suspended in a pharmaceutically acceptable medium; and

b. administering said suspension to an HIV-1 infected

subject; and

b. administering said suspension to an HIV-1 infected subject.

5. (withdrawn): A method for restoring activation pathways of cytotoxic T lymphocytes in a subject comprising of the following steps:

a. preparing a therapeutic suspension for the treatment of human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1) infection in humans comprising isolated and purified HIV-1 *nef*-deficient viral particles prepared from cells transfected with a recombinant HIV-1 molecular clone having a *nef* deletion between the endonuclease cleavage sites Nco I and Xho I, wherein said viral particles are suspended in a pharmaceutically acceptable medium; and

b. administering said suspension to a subject.

6. (withdrawn):

A method for decreasing the number of HIV-1 virions in an infected subject comprising of the following steps:

a. preparing a therapeutic suspension for the treatment of human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1) infection in humans comprising isolated and purified HIV-1 *nef*-deficient viral particles prepared from cells transfected with a recombinant HIV-1 molecular clone having a *nef* deletion between the endonuclease cleavage sites Nco I and Xho I, wherein said viral particles are suspended in a pharmaceutically acceptable medium;

and

b. administering said suspension to a subject.

7. (new) A method for the treatment of human immunodeficiency virus type 1 (HIV-1) infection in humans comprising the steps of:

a. preparing a therapeutic suspension comprising isolated and purified HIV-1 *nef*-deficient viral particles prepared from cells transfected with a recombinant HIV-1 molecular clone having a *nef*-deletion between the endonuclease cleavage sites Nco I and Xho I wherein said viral particles are suspended in a pharmaceutically acceptable medium and said suspension functions to increase or restore CD4+ lymphocyte levels in HIV-1 infected subjects; and

b. administering said suspension to an HIV-1 infected subject.

8. (new) The method of claim 7 in which said suspension further serves for reducing the HIV-1 viral burden in HIV-1 infected subjects.